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TABLE XIV—(A) and (B.)

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STATISTICS

OF

LIBRARIES IN THE UNITED STATES.

(A.)—BY STATES AND TERRITORIES.

(B.)—BY CLASSES AND KINDS.

AT THE CENSUSES OF 1870, 1860, AND 1850

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# REMARKS ON THE STATISTICS OF LIBRARIES.

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The statistics of libraries have never been very creditable to the census of the United States. Such improvement as was practicable with the machinery provided for the collection of these statistics, has been effected at the Ninth Census, and the results will be found in the table following, in comparison with the published results of 1860; but no great amount of complacency will be experienced upon a critical examination of the figures. The fact is, the machinery of the census under existing provisions of law, defective as it is in many particulars, is less adapted to work out correct results in this matter of the statistics of libraries than in any other use to which it is applied.

In 1860, there were returned, of all kinds, 27,730 libraries, containing 13,316,379 volumes. Of these, 8,149 were returned as private libraries, containing, in the aggregate, 4,766,235 volumes; but, for some reason inexplicable at this date, 8,140 of these libraries, containing 4,711,635 volumes, were incorporated in the published table with public libraries, while the nine remaining private libraries, containing 54,600 volumes, were incorporated in the libraries of schools and colleges, as appears by notes to the table following, verified by reference to pages 502 and 505 of the volume on Mortality and Miscellaneous Statistics for the Eighth Census.

At the Ninth Census, (1870,) the total number of libraries returned was 163,353, containing 44,539,184 volumes. Of these, 107,673 were private libraries, containing 25,571,503 volumes. No return under this head was made from the State of Connecticut, the deputy marshal reporting that no exact information could be obtained.

While this increase in the number of private libraries and volumes therein, over the returns of 1860, shows that this portion of the census work has been performed with far greater effort and care on the part of the assistant and deputy marshals charged with the collection of this class of statistics, the results are yet manifestly far below the truth of the case for the whole country, while in respect to certain States the figures of the following table are almost ludicrously disproportionate.

The only compensation for this failure—for such it must be pronounced in spite of the increase over the returns of former censuses—is found in the consideration that the statistics of private libraries are not, from any proper point of view, among the desirable inquiries of the census. The statistics of the manufacture and importation of books would be far more significant and instructive, while obtained with one-tenth of one per cent. of the effort that would be required to collect accurate statistics of private libraries, based upon any classification that might be adopted.

The last clause of the foregoing sentence intimates a practical difficulty, which, however the methods of the census might be improved, would always render the statistics of private libraries of the least possible value. Unless each one of the two or three hundred thousand private collections of books which might claim admission to such a table as that in contemplation of the census law, were to be personally visited and inspected by a competent judge, it would be impossible to prevent the intrusion into that table of tens of thousands of such collections, without any merit to entitle them to a place there. No matter how carefully assistant marshals might perform this duty, or how fully instructed they might be from the central office, the mere fact of six or seven thousand persons being employed in collecting these statistics, would be sufficient to defeat, utterly and hopelessly, all approach to uniformity of treatment. One-half of the assistant marshals would call that a library which the other half would not, or, more probably, nine out of ten such officers would admit everything that claimed to be a library to their lists.

The plan most commonly urged for preventing such a want of uniformity in the collection of the statistics of private libraries is to fix a number of volumes below which no collection of books shall be returned as a library, as, say, 100, 200, 300, or 500 volumes; but it is quite sufficient, without argument, to disprove such a proposition, to indicate the practical difficulties arising from such questions as these: What shall be done with pamphlets and unbound volumes? With children's books? With school books, old and new? With public documents, State and National? It is not too much to say that if all these classes were to be rejected, nine out of ten collections in the United States,

which would otherwise pass into a table of private libraries containing one hundred volumes and over, would be thrown out, while, on the other hand, it is difficult to see what value such a table can have for any use, scientific or popular, if these classes are to be indiscriminately admitted.

Passing from the private libraries reported in the following table, to libraries of other descriptions, as returned for the year 1870, a tolerable degree of completeness can fairly be claimed as the result of exceptional efforts in this direction.

Omissions of some importance have doubtless occurred in the column for circulating libraries, and differences in classification adopted by assistant or deputy marshals have caused some apparent discrepancies in other columns.

It should be said that the class "Libraries of historical, literary, and scientific societies," was intended to include only such libraries belonging to learned societies as are not open to the general public, but are reserved to the exclusive use of members or of a limited number of subscribers. This class fails, therefore, to include many libraries of learned societies which, from the fact of being open to the public freely, or upon terms of such liberality as to make their use practically universal, are, for the purposes of this table, more properly taken as public libraries. For some reason not explained, all libraries of this class for the city and State of New York have been incorporated with other classes.

## STATISTICS OF LIBRARIES.

TABLE XIV (A.)—THE UNITED STATES

STATES AND TERRITORIES.	1870													
	ALL CLASSES.		LIBRARIES, OTHER THAN PRIVATE.											
			TOTAL.		UNITED STATES.		STATE AND TERRITORIAL.		TOWN, CITY, ETC.		COURT AND LAW.			
	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.
Total United States...	164,815	45,528,938	56,015	10,456,518	1	190,000	14	115,185	53	653,915	1,101	1,237,430	1,073	425,782
1 Alabama...	1,430	576,882	298	86,577					1	3,000	4	800	33	7,785
2 Arizona...	6	2,000	1	1,000					1	1,000				
3 Arkansas...	1,181	135,504	293	54,332					1	12,500	6	250	29	5,747
4 California...	1,617	474,290	744	159,625					1	2,000	13	18,278	46	5,330
5 Colorado...	175	39,344	30	11,385					1	2,600			2	150
6 Connecticut...	63	285,937	63	285,937					1	12,000				
7 Dakota...	19	9,726	5	2,788					1	2,238				
8 Delaware...	473	183,423	252	92,275					1	4,000				
9 District of Columbia...	696	703,702	127	409,936	1	190,000	14	115,185					4	32,348
10 Florida...	253	112,928	75	25,374					1	7,000			5	4,182
11 Georgia...	1,735	467,232	545	162,851					1	16,000	4	3,730	63	8,610
12 Idaho...	43	10,625	11	2,860									1	150
13 Illinois...	13,570	3,323,914	3,705	924,545					1	10,000	53	35,010	135	23,832
14 Indiana...	5,301	1,125,553	2,333	627,894					1	17,870	52	39,039	92	10,303
15 Iowa...	3,540	673,600	1,153	377,851					1	11,000	23	22,808	11	944
16 Kansas...	574	218,076	190	92,425							4	4,100	3	2,050
17 Kentucky...	5,546	1,909,230	1,172	318,985					2	9,200	10	13,436	218	61,590
18 Louisiana...	2,332	847,406	480	263,266					2	64,000	1	10,000	61	31,583
19 Maine...	3,334	984,510	1,462	533,547					1	20,000	58	14,640	19	9,748
20 Maryland...	3,353	1,713,483	1,316	570,945					2	31,462	1	41,500	20	14,662
21 Massachusetts...	3,169	3,017,813	1,544	2,010,609					1	30,000	95	475,853	18	27,708
22 Michigan...	26,763	2,174,744	3,002	578,631					1	31,265	423	124,207	49	10,359
23 Minnesota...	1,412	360,810	537	160,790					1	10,000	15	9,981	1	500
24 Mississippi...	2,788	488,482	537	88,376					1	7,000	2	1,000	3	121
25 Missouri...	5,645	1,065,638	1,742	498,996					1	12,000	11	8,097	125	35,104
26 Montana...	141	19,790	13	5,100					1	400	1	1,600		
27 Nebraska...	390	147,040	171	51,915							1	200		1
28 Nevada...	314	158,040	28	41,940					1	20,000			1	250
29 New Hampshire...	1,526	704,260	670	324,393					1	10,500	32	44,744	7	627
30 New Jersey...	2,413	895,291	1,636	535,679					1	17,205	2	20,000		
31 New Mexico...	116	39,425	33	9,620					1	4,000			2	210
32 New York...	20,929	6,310,352	13,771	3,524,869					2	66,019	130	173,336	26	77,535
33 North Carolina...	1,746	541,915	656	202,651					3	16,303	3	2,316	24	4,119
34 Ohio...	17,790	3,687,363	6,025	1,334,363					1	34,200	3	61,000	1	5,000
35 Oregon...	2,301	334,959	166	61,532					1	3,578	1	1,161	1	180
36 Pennsylvania...	14,849	6,377,845	4,966	3,049,247					1	30,000	39	28,586	20	24,051
37 Rhode Island...	759	693,387	334	309,696					1	1,500	10	15,198	5	2,147
38 South Carolina...	1,663	546,244	741	149,224					1	2,700			3	6,324
39 Tennessee...	3,505	802,112	773	204,713					1	19,000	4	1,337	3	1,500
40 Texas...	455	87,111	135	25,018					1	2,000			1	1,000
41 Utah...	133	39,177	74	31,493					1	3,519	3	850	1	2,000
42 Vermont...	1,792	727,263	736	321,737					1	14,158	82	52,368	4	3,023
43 Virginia...	4,171	1,107,313	1,409	386,020					2	22,700	1	753	12	2,117
44 Washington...	102	33,302	30	13,552					1	5,400	1	610		
45 West Virginia...	1,738	372,745	638	152,183					1	3,095	4	5,905	6	1,269
46 Wisconsin...	2,883	905,811	1,332	378,680					4	61,400	9	4,838	8	1,010
47 Wyoming...	31	2,603	11	1,103					1	103				

## STATISTICS OF LIBRARIES.

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TABLE XIV.(A.)—THE UNITED STATES.

1870

## LIBRARIES, OTHER THAN PRIVATE.

SCHOOL, COLLEGE, ETC.		SABBATH-SCHOOL.		CHURCH.		HISTORICAL, LITER- ARY, AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.		CHARITABLE AND PENAL INSTITU- TIONS.		BENEVOLENT AND SECRET ASSOCIA- TIONS.		CIRCULATING.		PRIVATE.	
Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.
14,375	3,598,537	33,580	8,346,153	4,478	1,634,915	47	590,002	9	13,890	43	114,581	1,241	2,536,128	108,800	26,072,420
12	23,300	239	49,517	9	2,175									1,132	490,305
		216	29,412	37	4,930									5	1,000
288	29,113	208	63,940	96	18,180									888	81,232
2	2,000	22	5,685	2	150									31	22,475
5	142,000					1	14,000							1	314,674
		4	550											145	27,959
		223	55,851	23	9,400									(a)	5
		95	39,853	6	2,850									6	1,493
		54	10,500	13	1,970									178	800
15	41,100	360	63,114	82	16,002	2	2,000			1	400	8	11,805	1,190	304,381
		5	1,010	1	500							4	1,200	32	7,765
1,122	140,750	2,080	438,567	228	47,533	7	153,492					79	75,352	9,865	2,399,309
1,006	323,391	1,075	204,692	87	24,356							20	8,243	2,968	497,659
15	18,747	999	278,251	85	25,584							1	150	18	20,367
3	6,500	141	33,440	35	39,785							4	6,550	4	2,387
18	20,075	717	160,377	207	53,707									18	295,749
34	37,050	173	40,225	183	60,008									4	15
25	63,425	1,079	277,742	140	39,910	1	2,500	3	5,300			26	20,400	1,852	584,140
72	98,470	881	215,763	310	90,989							136	100,273	1,872	450,963
20	253,127	1,042	539,600	164	85,956	11	186,800	1	1,000	6	63,000	186	78,099	2,037	1,142,538
246	37,734	1,731	239,471	436	81,801							116	53,704	23,761	1,596,113
1	4,000	464	85,710	80	26,798	1	7,000			1	200	23	16,601	825	200,020
1	5,000	503	69,825	15	3,000						7	2,430	2,251	400,106	
50	44,825	1,283	188,493	243	96,845						28	112,450	3,903	566,642	
		6	900	3	900	1	100				1	1,200	128	14,600	
		133	39,175	33	10,940						3	1,000	219	95,125	
		16	5,950	2	600						8	15,140	286	116,100	
21	30,800	538	164,570	38	7,425	4	18,510				29	47,217	856	379,876	
		1,619	423,224								14	75,250	777	359,612	
2	1,200	3	760	24	3,250						1	200	83	29,805	
9,879	1,165,158	3,103	904,627	486	253,163						144	700,131	7,158	2,785,483	
14	77,050	500	74,160	109	26,951						3	1,752	1,030	330,204	
1,118	420,013	4,896	796,650			1	3,000				5	8,500	11,765	2,353,000	
4	4,400	126	33,547	22	10,420						30	1,096	8	7,150	
115	267,223	3,916	1,696,640	732	420,559	18	202,600				86	330,153	9,883	3,328,598	
12	97,500	248	116,441	26	11,160						32	65,750	425	383,691	
4	20,800	647	93,200	84	25,100						2	1,100	922	397,020	
10	68,950	670	91,345	68	15,328						17	7,253	2,732	507,309	
1	1,200	131	19,318								1	1,500	320	62,093	
		61	8,894								8	16,230	59	7,684	
58	38,735	544	189,840	11	8,517						33	20,678	1,056	405,536	
4	50,000	1,146	162,436	232	75,233						12	52,781	2,762	721,293	
1	400	10	4,342	7	2,500						1	300	72	19,810	
3	7,400	572	115,014	49	17,800						3	1,700	1,000	220,562	
194	50,492	1,008	209,523	70	12,550						39	38,867	1,551	527,131	
		10	1,000								20	1,500	47		

(a) No return of private libraries from Connecticut.

## STATISTICS OF LIBRARIES.

TABLE XIV (A.)—THE UNITED STATES—Continued.

STATES AND TERRITORIES	1860									
	LIBRARIES, OTHER THAN PRIVATE.									
	ALL CLASSES.		PUBLIC, NOT SPECIFIED.		SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.		SABBATH-SCHOOL.		CHURCH.	
	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.
Total United States.....	a27,730	a13,316,379	b10,208	b8,033,233	c10,780	c2,797,949	6,205	2,072,469	537	412,708
1 Alabama.....	395	155,275	361	123,315	4	15,500	23	13,050	8	3,410
2 Arizona.....										
3 Arkansas.....	115	23,221	102	22,210			13	1,011		
4 California.....	70	149,064	50	131,714			20	17,350		
5 Colorado.....										
6 Connecticut.....	490	404,206	194	231,332	103	86,812	183	80,062	10	0,000
7 Dakota.....										
8 Delaware.....	114	88,470	64	61,100	2	7,100	48	20,270		
9 District of Columbia.....	92	191,723	b79	b152,100	4	36,800	9	2,823		
10 Florida.....	66	46,375	54	37,125	8	5,000	3	3,750	1	500
11 Georgia.....	364	272,935	288	228,666	11	17,800	53	14,609	13	11,800
12 Idaho.....										
13 Illinois.....	854	244,394	246	131,753	250	31,189	339	74,432	19	7,030
14 Indiana.....	1,123	467,062	341	198,490	534	202,916	247	65,456	1	200
15 Iowa.....	530	107,104	412	72,161	3	1,500	113	32,043	2	1,400
16 Kansas.....	46	9,735	39	8,025			1	500	6	1,210
17 Kentucky.....	196	148,012	95	106,175	8	11,363	91	19,774	2	10,700
18 Louisiana.....	68	116,604	53	106,624	2	4,200	9	2,280	4	3,500
19 Maine.....	814	405,901	283	215,437	17	40,190	473	138,924	41	11,350
20 Maryland.....	1,074	235,055	1,017	172,800	10	30,400	25	7,285	22	24,570
21 Massachusetts.....	1,852	1,997,151	853	1,296,836	191	265,998	756	386,717	52	47,000
22 Michigan.....	1,120	250,686	141	87,090	730	96,393	244	66,333	5	870
23 Minnesota.....	89	33,649	26	18,975	9	2,600	52	10,556	2	1,518
24 Mississippi.....	166	178,745	146	163,420	1	5,000	13	6,525	6	3,800
25 Missouri.....	310	184,884	215	105,301	13	47,600	69	24,785	13	7,133
26 Montana.....										
27 Nebraska.....	61	10,742	53	8,862			8	1,880		
28 Nevada.....										
29 New Hampshire.....	306	237,312	118	129,270	14	41,367	132	44,825	42	21,850
30 New Jersey.....	725	433,321	402	250,485	14	54,550	277	107,605	32	20,681
31 New Mexico.....	17	10,670	15	8,670					2	2,000
32 New York.....	8,360	2,436,576	744	1,103,688	6,352	1,003,223	1,140	267,867	124	61,703
33 North Carolina.....	301	190,091	263	152,809	12	24,700	21	6,282	5	6,300
34 Ohio.....	3,082	790,666	496	339,821	2,017	288,933	560	133,862	9	28,050
35 Oregon.....	11	5,300	5	1,650	2	1,750	4	1,900		
36 Pennsylvania.....	1,416	1,344,924	529	761,299	67	172,802	764	339,414	56	71,400
37 Rhode Island.....	302	465,419	169	356,444	17	46,459	100	51,617	16	10,899
38 South Carolina.....	257	471,542	193	366,517	7	66,000	48	17,495	9	21,000
39 Tennessee.....	387	245,228	335	186,033	23	50,540	21	6,180	8	2,475
40 Texas.....	147	86,538	132	74,563	7	8,300	8	3,675		
41 Utah.....	12	5,476	10	4,738	2	738				
42 Vermont.....	336	167,429	211	100,105	9	26,432	98	30,842	18	10,050
43 Virginia.....	1,453	543,010	1,350	432,110	28	69,770	71	32,630	4	8,500
44 Washington.....	10	11,325	4	9,525	1	200	4	1,100	1	500
45 West Virginia.....										
46 Wisconsin.....	599	150,559	120	75,985	308	33,824	167	36,800	4	4,000
47 Wyoming.....										

(a) Including 8,149 private libraries, containing 4,766,235 volumes. See pages 502 and 505 of volume on Mortality and Miscellaneous Statistics, Eighth Census.

(b) Including 8,140 private libraries, containing 4,711,635 volumes, of which 77 private libraries, containing 118,100, were in the District of Columbia. Libraries of Congress and of Departments of the General Government are not included.

(c) Including 9 private libraries, containing 54,600 volumes.

TABLE XIV (A.)—THE UNITED STATES—Continued.

1850													
LIBRARIES, OTHER THAN PRIVATE.													
ALL CLASSES.		PUBLIC, NOT SPECIFIED.		SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.						SABBATH-SCHOOL.		CHURCH.	
				Total.		School.		College.					
Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.
15,615	4,636,411	a1,217	a1,446,015	12,280	2,569,725	12,067	1,647,404	213	942,321	1,988	542,321	130	58,350
50	20,623	4	3,848	37	11,000	32	3,500	5	7,500	15	5,775		1
3	420	1	250							2	170		2
													3
													4
164	165,318	42	38,609	12	87,639	4	5,039	8	82,600	107	38,445	3	625
17	17,950	4	10,250	1	5,000			1	5,000	12	2,700		8
9	98,600	7	66,100	2	32,500			2	32,500				9
7	2,660	1	1,000	2	800	2	800			4	860		10
38	31,788	3	6,500	20	23,800	11	1,800	9	21,500	15	1,988		11
													12
152	62,486	33	35,982	33	13,675	29	5,875	4	7,800	86	12,829		13
151	68,403	58	46,238	7	10,500	3	1,800	4	8,700	85	11,265	1	400
32	5,790	4	2,650	4	160	4	160			24	2,980		15
													16
80	79,466	47	40,424	11	33,925			11	33,925	18	4,617	4	1,200
10	26,800	5	9,800	5	17,000	2	12,000	3	5,000				18
236	121,969	77	51,439	19	41,850	11	2,925	8	39,625	131	26,988	9	1,692
124	125,042	17	54,750	18	40,127	8	6,335	10	33,792	84	28,315	5	1,850
1,462	684,015	177	257,737	810	246,045	792	104,645	18	141,400	433	165,476	42	14,757
417	107,943	280	65,116	192	39,327	119	31,427	3	7,900	15	3,500		22
													23
117	21,737	4	7,264	107	13,743	103	3,050	4	10,093	6	730		24
97	75,056	13	23,106	17	36,850	13	17,150	4	10,700	66	14,500	1	600
													25
													26
													27
													28
129	85,750	47	42,017	6	21,175	3	1,200	3	19,975	70	20,117	6	2,450
128	80,885	77	43,903	14	28,080	10	4,080	4	24,000	35	8,564	2	338
													30
													31
11,013	1,760,820	43	197,229	10,827	1,527,599	10,802	1,388,720	25	138,870	137	33,294	6	2,698
38	29,593	4	2,500	6	23,093	1	1,500	5	21,593	19	2,352	9	1,647
352	180,826	65	65,703	35	66,238	13	9,665	22	56,573	248	53,910	4	975
													34
													35
393	363,400	90	184,666	51	94,211	30	17,161	21	77,050	236	58,071	26	26,452
96	104,342	26	42,007	13	36,814	12	5,814	1	31,000	50	23,765	7	1,756
26	107,472	16	73,758	10	33,714	3	2,750	7	30,964				37
34	22,896	9	5,373	7	15,025	2	5,100	5	9,925	18	2,498		38
12	4,230	3	2,100	4	530	3	430	1	100	5	1,600		39
													40
													41
96	64,641	30	21,061	25	32,980	16	9,700	9	23,280	38	10,020	3	580
54	88,462	21	32,595	20	53,562	6	2,706	14	50,856	11	1,975	2	330
													42
													43
													44
													45
72	21,020	9	12,040	35	3,963	33	2,163	2	1,800	28	5,017		46
													47

(a) Libraries of Congress and of Departments of the General Government are not included.

TABLE XIV (B.)—THE UNITED STATES.—BY CLASSES AND KINDS IN EACH CLASS.

CLASSES AND KINDS.	1870		1860		1850	
	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.	Number.	Volumes.
ALL CLASSES .....	164,815	45,528,938	27,730	13,316,379	15,615	4,636,411
NOT PRIVATE .....	56,015	19,456,518	19,581	8,550,144	15,615	4,636,411
United States, Congressional.....	1	190,000				
Departmental.....	14	115,185				
State and territorial .....	53	653,915				
Town, city, and other municipal .....	1,101	1,237,430				
Court and law.....	1,073	425,782				
School, (including university and college).....	14,375	3,598,537	10,771	2,743,349	12,280	2,589,725
Sabbath-school .....	33,580	8,346,153	6,205	2,072,480	1,988	542,381
Church .....	4,478	1,034,915	537	412,708	130	58,350
Historical, literary, and scientific societies.....	47	590,002				
Charitable and penal institutions.....	9	13,890				
Benevolent and secret associations.....	43	114,581				
Circulating .....	1,241	2,536,128				
Not specified.....			2,068	3,321,598	1,217	1,446,015
PRIVATE .....	108,800	26,072,420	8,149	4,766,235		